

24.10.2018

NRSGH GRANT RECEIVER REPORT :

2018 COMPARATIVE RESEARCH ON POVERTY (CROP) & EQUITY FOR CHILDREN WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE, 11-12 OCTOBER, NEW YORK, USA

From 11th -12th October, 2018, I had the opportunity to participate in an important international workshop and conference in New York City, USA thanks to support from the NRSGH international training grant. This conference was organized by the Comparative Research on Poverty (CROP) institute headquartered in Bergen, Norway in collaboration with Equity for Children, USA at the UNDP Headquarters at the New School in New York.

The workshop/ conference was held under the theme “*Addressing Inclusion among Children & Adolescents Living in Poverty: Progress towards Achieving the SDGs*” and it attracted an international pool of researchers and practitioners working in fields related to social inclusion/ exclusion and poverty of children around the world. It also attracted support and participation from global children oriented organizations such as UNICEF and SOS Children’s Villages International. Also participating were PhD students like myself working on projects related to the theme of the conference.

I got attracted to the workshop/conference when I realized that a paper I am currently working on titled based on emerging themes from my data analysis in my PhD project bothered on the central themes that were going to be discussed at the workshop. Aside from this, the workshop had been planned such that each participant is assigned a submitted and accepted paper from the pool of papers to critically review and comment on during the workshop. I saw this as an opportunity to obtain good critical feedback from scholars and practitioners in the field on my paper and also obtain some practical experience doing critical reviews myself as I prepare for my academic and research career.

My paper titled “The role of context in social exclusion of children: lessons from children’s homes in Ghana” was accepted and assigned to a participating scholar on the topic, while I was assigned a paper from Italy dealing with the measurement of multidimensional child poverty in Emergency in Eastern Mosul, Iraq using a Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) tool. This was good practice and a valuable experience for me. The conference session of the programme also gave me the opportunity to update myself on new trends of research in the global discourse on child social inclusion/ exclusion and poverty.

Following my successful participation in the workshop/ programme, the paper I presented is now being considered by a panel appointed during the workshops for inclusion in a chapter of a new book on the global trends of child social inclusion/ exclusion that is being authored by the workshop participants. So thanks to NRSGH, I am possibly going to be an author of a chapter in an internationally recognized book on global poverty and inclusion discourse. Thank you NRSGH!!

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